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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA
HELENA DIVISION

MONTANA PUBLIC INTEREST
RESEARCH GROUP; MONTANA
FEDERATION OF PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

CHRISTI JACOBSEN, in her official capacity as Montana Secretary of State; AUSTIN KNUDSEN, in his official capacity as Montana Attorney General; CHRIS GALLUS, in his official capacity as Montana Commissioner of Political Practices,

Defendants,

and

THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE; MONTANA REPUBLICAN PARTY

Intervenor-Defendants.

CV 23-70-H-BMM-KLD

**STIPULATION AND CONSENT
JUDGMENT**

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Plaintiffs Montana Public Interest Research Group and Montana Federation of Public Employees; Defendants Christi Jacobsen, Austin Knudsen, and Chris Gallus; and Intervenor-Defendants the Republican National Committee and Montana Republican Party (collectively, the “Parties”), by and through counsel, stipulate to the following and respectfully request that this Court approve this Consent Judgment.

1. On September 29, 2023, Plaintiffs filed their Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, seeking a declaration that the provision of House Bill 892 (“HB 892”) codified at section 13-35-210(5) of the Montana Code violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, as well as injunctive relief enjoining Defendants, their agents, and their successors in office from enforcing that provision. (Doc. No. 1 at 23). Plaintiffs moved for a preliminary injunction on November 6, 2023. (Doc. No. 11).

2. On April 24, 2024, this Court granted Plaintiffs’ motion for a preliminary injunction, enjoining “Defendants, their agents, and their successors . . . from enforcing HB 892’s multiple registration prohibition and prior registration disclosure requirement provisions codified in Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210(5).” (Doc. No. 79 at 33–34). The injunction applied only to Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210(5); all other provisions of HB 892, codified in Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210, remained in effect.

3. On September 3, 2024, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed this Court's ruling in an unpublished decision.

4. Since the Ninth Circuit affirmed this Court's ruling, the Parties have engaged in good-faith negotiations regarding a potential settlement of Plaintiffs' claims against Defendants.

5. Following negotiation, the Parties have reached a settlement to fully resolve Plaintiffs' claims, the terms of which are set forth below:

- a. First, this Court's preliminary injunction enjoining Defendants, their agents, and their successors from enforcing HB 892's multiple registration prohibition and prior registration disclosure requirements codified in Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210(5) shall remain in effect permanently.
- b. Second, Defendants agree not to enforce HB 892's multiple registration prohibition or prior registration disclosure requirements codified in Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210(5), consistent with this Court's injunction.
- c. Third, all other provisions of HB 892, codified in Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210, shall remain in effect. This includes the State's existing ban on double voting, codified in Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-35-210(2) and (4).

d. Fourth, the Parties agree to each bear their own fees, expenses, and costs incurred in this case, including on appeal. Plaintiffs waive their right to move for attorney's fees and costs.

e. Fifth, Plaintiffs' claims shall be dismissed without prejudice.

WHEREFORE the Parties respectfully request that this Court approve this Consent Judgment as a full and final resolution of Plaintiffs' claims.

/s/ Raph Graybill

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that, on this 7th day of March, 2025, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the following persons by the following means:

1, 2, 3 CM/ECF

Hand Delivery
 Mail
 Overnight Delivery Service
 Fax
 E-Mail

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